

Appl. No. : 10/016,705
Filed : December 10, 2001

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are responsive to the January 12, 2006 Office Action. Claims 1-5, 10-12, 16-19, and 36-41 remain as originally filed or previously presented, Claims 6-9, 13-15, 20-33, and 35 are cancelled without prejudice, and Claim 34 is amended. Thus, Claims 1-5, 10-12, 16-19, 34, and 36-41 are presented for further consideration. Please enter the amendments and reconsider the claims in view of the following remarks.

Comments Regarding the Attorney of Record

The January 12, 2006 Office Action was not mailed to the attorney of record. A "Revocation and Appointment of Attorney" was mailed to the USPTO on December 18, 2002, and was received by the USPTO on December 24, 2002, as evidenced by the return postcard (provided herewith). Pursuant to the "Revocation and Appointment of Attorney," the correct attorneys of record are the registrants of:

Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP
2040 Main Street
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Irvine, California 92614
Telephone: (949) 760-0404
Customer No. 20,995

Applicant thanks the Examiner for discussing this issue with Applicant's representative, Bruce S. Itchkawitz, on March 15, 2006. In accordance with this discussion, a copy of the "Revocation and Appointment of Attorney" is being resubmitted herewith. Applicant respectfully requests that the correct attorneys of record be noted in the record of the present application so that future correspondences are sent to the appropriate address.

Comments on Allowable Subject Matter

In the January 12, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner states that Claims 1-5, 10-12, 16-19, and 36-41 are allowed and that Claim 34 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the allowability of these claims. As described herein, Claim 34 has been amended to be rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim (*i.e.*, Claim 31) and any intervening claims (none for Claim 34). Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 34 is in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests such action.

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Response to Rejection of Claims 28-33 and 35

In the January 12, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 28-31 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,423,094 issued to Sarfarazi. The Examiner also rejects Claims 28 and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,117,171 issued to Skottun. The Examiner also rejects Claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarfarazi.

As described herein, Applicant has cancelled Claims 28-33 and 35 without prejudice, reserving the right to pursue allowance of these claims in a continuation application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner pass the remaining pending claims to allowance.

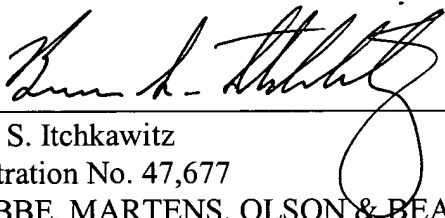
Summary

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that Claims 1-5, 10-12, 16-19, 34, and 36-41 are in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests such action.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3/15/06

By: 
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